PRESS RELEASE

Company: **MPE Microprocessor Engineering**   Date: 03 November 2014

ARM Compiler Support under Linux in Forth broadens MPE's range

On the low end, Lite Compilers give flying start to embedded designs

For an easy start get your small PCBs at electronica

Southampton, UK – 03 November 2014 – MPE today announced that ARM Compiler Support for Forth is available now as well under Linux. The availability of low-cost boards, like Raspberry Pi with the additional Compute Module and Beaglebone for example, allow for new applications based on these boards. In comparison to standard Embedded Boards like ComExpress and Q7 they lower the entry cost level. This lead to a requirement at MPE for the same proven compilers to be available for developers using Linux.

The Forth programming language is ideal for applications where interactive programming, fast time to prototypes and incremental code generation are needed. High integrity system requirements are increasing in Medical, Rail, Automotive and Robot applications, where the most resilient and robust development processes are called for. Forth is well suited for such applications. And as work is interactive and incremental, compile time is negligible.

The Linux market needs tools focussed at Embedded Developers transitioning from the traditional Embedded market. MPE's existing Linux tool VFX Forth for x86 Linux has supported this market and now VFX Forth for ARM Linux supports the new ARM Linux market using a the same Cross Platform GUI and including the following interfaces already: Serial, Parallel, USB, Ethernet and Wi-Fi.

A team of specialists is available to support all of the technical questions.
In addition MPE offers custom support, ranging from Custom Linux Installations, via complete Design Consultancy for Applications and electronic design to work on Safety Critical and Intrinsically Safe Systems applications.

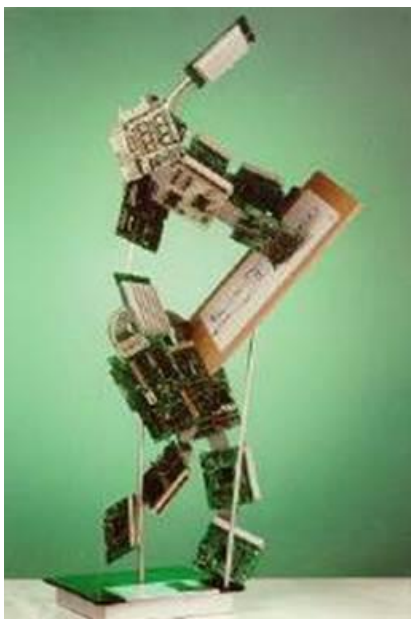LITE tools to start, running on well-known development boards are ready for download and can be found at http://www.mpeforth.com/xc7lite.htm

Electronica, EuroTech Hall A3 Booth 481 helps on the entry level. Often the PCB is missing just to try Forth on a controller. At electronica you can exchange the 2 little boards for a business card. There is not much you need: PCB, socket, chip, resistor and capacitor.

Elektor in Hall A6 Booth 380 will have a Maker Space aimed at technical discussions or even some components might be available there, or just relax, have a chat and enjoy some of the presentations.

The MSP430G2553 is nearly all you need on the hardware side after the show. And the MSP430 LITE compiler, a free entry tool, providing a complete integrated set of tools (unlike other languages). They include conventional cross-compilation as well as a complete Forth system resident on the target microcontroller.
Code generated is directly compiled into the microcontroller's Flash memory. A USB connection, or even an RS232, is sufficient for in-the-field changes; software can be adapted and code changed, without using any additional tools, making the compiler ideal for testing set-ups and for field service.

With the Lite compiler, MPE has lowered the entry cost to Forth to zero, making it easier for programmers with C or other language skills to evaluate the benefits of Forth or of a combined C and Forth approach. Many of the boards required are in designer's hands now, ready for them to just download the new software and try it out. Support for other boards will soon be added to the MPE website.

END

About MPE Microprocessor Engineering

MPE is a privately held company based in Southampton UK, founded in 1981 to develop and sell software tools such as compilers, specialising in real-time embedded systems. Professional and Standard compilers are available for: ARM and Cortex-M0/M1/M3/M4, ARM/StrongARM/XScale, 386/486/Pentium, H8S, H8/300H and H8/Tiny, Coldfire, 9S12/68HC12, MSP430 and 8051. Custom implementations are available on request.

MPE also offers as hardware and software consultancy, with particular expertise in high-performance Forth systems and rapid compilation. Projects are staffed by both MPE employees and external consultants.

MPE products are used in application areas such as glass-grinding, payment terminals, vending machines, bomb-disposal and construction planning. They have been used in products all over the world and as far as comets and Mars.

Technical Information:
MPE MicroProcessor Engineering
Stephen Pelc, MD
Tel: +44 (0)23 8063 1441
Email: stephen@mpeforth.com
Web: http://www.mpeforth.com

PR Contact:
MPE MicroProcessor Engineering
Juergen Pintaske
Tel: +44 (0) 7736 70 76 74
Email: juergen@exemark.com
Web: http://www.mpeforth.com